

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of vasoconstricting blood vessels in a subject, comprising:

- (a) selecting a subject in need of vasoconstriction; and
- (b) administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) sufficient to induce vasoconstriction, thereby vasoconstricting blood vessels in the subject.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method of vasoconstricting blood vessels comprises administering the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) to a subject experiencing or at risk of experiencing shock.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method comprises administering the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) to a subject experiencing or at risk of experiencing vasodilatory shock.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method comprises administering the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) to a subject experiencing or at risk of experiencing septic shock.

5. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4).

6. – 9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A kit for vasoconstricting blood vessels in a subject comprising a container and an amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 5.

11. (Original) The kit of claim 10, further comprising a container comprising another vasoconstrictive, inotropic, or antibiotic agent.

12. (Original) The kit of claim 10, wherein the vasoconstrictive or inotropic agent is norepinephrine, dopamine, or dobutamine.

13. (Original) The kit of claim 10, further comprising instructions for administering the compound to a subject.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for an inhibitor of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4), comprising:

- (a) selecting a compound; and
- (b) determining whether the compound inhibits AM(11-22)-mediated vasoconstriction, wherein inhibition of AM(11-22)-mediated vasoconstriction indicates that the compound is an inhibitor of the peptide AM(11-22)-inhibitor (SEQ ID NO: 4), thereby screening for the inhibitor of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4).

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~45~~14, comprising contacting a blood vessel with the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) in the presence and absence of the compound.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the blood vessel is in a subject.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the subject is a rat.

18. (Original) The method of method of claim 14, wherein the compound is an antibody.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the compound is a peptide.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of vasodilating blood vessels in a subject, comprising:

- (a) selecting a subject in need of vasodilation; and
- (b) administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor of a vasoconstricting activity of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) sufficient to induce vasodilation, thereby vasodilating blood vessels in the subject.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the method of vasodilating blood vessels comprises administering the inhibitor of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) to a subject experiencing or at risk of experiencing hypertension.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the inhibitor of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4) is an antibody-or a peptide.

25. (Currently Amended) A kit for vasoconstricting blood vessels in a subject comprising a container and an amount of an inhibitor of the peptide consisting of the peptide AM(11-22) (SEQ ID NO: 4).

26. (Original) The kit of claim 25, further comprising a container comprising another vasodilative agent.

27. (Original) The kit of claim 25, further comprising instructions for administering the compound to subject.